

AMENDMENT & RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 - EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
Serial Number: 09/076,022
Filing Date: May 11, 1998
Title: SMART CARD PERSONALIZATION IN A MULTISTATION ENVIRONMENT

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REMARKS

Applicant has carefully reviewed and considered the Office Action mailed on March 1, 2000, and the references cited therewith. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the claims, in view of the remarks presented herein, is respectfully requested.

Claims 10, 15, 21, 26, 27, 29 and 30 are amended; claims 1-9, 14, 20 and 35 are canceled, and no claims are added; as a result, claims 10-13, 15-19, and 21-34 are now pending in this application. The amendments are not intended to limit the scope of equivalents to which any claim element may be entitled. No new subject matter has been added to the claims. The amendments to the claims are fully supported by the specification as originally filed.

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the above-identified patent application as amended and in view of the following remarks.

Undated References

Enclosed herewith is a copy of the Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement dated January 5, 2000, with a substitute Form 1449 and copies of the two foreign English abstracts cited. The Examiner had previously crossed through these references on the form 1449 because no date was provided, as required. The substitute Form 1449 has been amended to include dates. **It is respectfully requested that the Examiner review these references, and return an initialed copy of the form with the next action.**

Examiner Interview Summaries

Applicant respectfully thanks the Examiner for a first phone conference on July 26, 2000, in which the Applicant's counsel and the Examiner discussed the scope of claim 30 in light of US Patent No. 4,827,425 issued to Linden.

Applicant respectfully thanks the Examiner for a second phone conference on August 22, 2000, in which the Applicant's counsel and the Examiner discussed the proposed amendments to claims 10, 27, 29, and 30 in light of US Patent No. 4,827,425 issued to Linden. During the second phone conference, the Examiner indicated the allowability over this reference of claims 10, 27, 29, and 30 as amended herein.

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§103 Rejection of Claims

Claims 1-35 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Linden (U.S. 4,827,425) in view of Laing et al. (U.S. 5,534,857). Independent claims 10, 15, 21, 26, 27, 29 and 30 are amended herein to include limitations not present in Linden or Laing et al. During a telephone interview on August 22, 2000, the Examiner indicated the allowability of claims 10, 27, 29, and 30 as amended herein. The amendments to claims 15, 21 and 26 are similar in scope to the amendments in claims 10, 27, 29 and 30 and thus are also believed to be allowable.

Conclusion

Applicant respectfully submits that claims 10-13, 15-19, and 21-34 are in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicant's attorney (612-349-9592) to facilitate prosecution of this application.

If necessary please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.

Respectfully submitted,

ROBERT NEAL GOMAN ET AL.

By their Representatives,

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Date: August 30, 2000

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted by facsimile to: Attn: Examiner Frech, Group Art Unit 2876, Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on August 30, 2000.

ANN McCRAKIN
Name

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Signature

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